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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **THE U.S. MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD'S RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**

The U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board is extending mandatory telework for its employees at all locations through Friday, May 1, 2020. We will evaluate the need for a further extension as we get closer to that date. This is in continued support of guidance and recommendations to continue social distancing and maximize telework in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the National Emergency.

As noted in our announcement on March 16, this change in MSPB's operating posture temporarily impacts some hearing and mediation schedules, and the docketing/processing of new appeals/pleadings submitted by mail, overnight or personal delivery, or fax. We continue to assess each situation and communicate with affected parties to provide for effective ways to continue the hearing and adjudication of initial appeals, with which we urge the parties' cooperation. As a reminder, MSPB's [e-Appeal Online](#) system is available for electronic filing. Because paper submissions may not be received by MSPB during this period, we strongly encourage the use of [e-Appeal Online](#) for both new and pending cases, and by all parties.

Further, if you submitted a new appeal or pleading to MSPB and it was returned to you by the delivery service, you must save the submission, including its original envelope showing the postmark date or date of delivery to the commercial delivery service. After MSPB employees return to their offices, please resubmit them both in a new envelope. If you submitted a fax on or after March 13, 2020 that was not received by MSPB, you must resubmit the fax after MSPB employees return to their offices. Your resubmission must show the failure of any attempted transmission. You will be contacted by MSPB after our employees have returned to their offices.

MSPB will continue to review and adjust our operations with respect to COVID-19 to support the health and safety of our employees and continue our essential functions. If you

have any questions, please contact the appropriate MSPB Regional or Field Office or the Office of the Clerk of the Board. Telephone and e-mail addresses are located on the Contact tab of MSPB's website ([www.mspb.gov](http://www.mspb.gov)). For more information on COVID-19, please visit [www.coronavirus.gov](http://www.coronavirus.gov), [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus), and [www.usa.gov/coronavirus](http://www.usa.gov/coronavirus) (Spanish: [www.usa.gov/espanol/coronavirus](http://www.usa.gov/espanol/coronavirus)).

The U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) is an independent, quasi-judicial agency whose mission is to protect the Merit System Principles and promote an effective Federal workforce free of Prohibited Personnel Practices.